Damage to thermal power plants in Bihar due to supply of inferior quality coal

†2536. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that costly equipments of thermal power plants in Bihar become out of order because of poor supply of coal;

(b) if so, the measures taken to improve it; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by Government to ensure the supply of good quality of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) No specific information has been received about costly equipments being out of order at the thermal power plants in Bihar due to supply of poor quality of coal. The Indian coal available for sector generally has ash content of 25% to 45% or even higher. The thermal power stations of Bihar State Electricity Board are using coal varying from 'D' to 'G' grades. Adequate quantity of better quality of coal is not available in India for use by power sector, and as such the use of washed coal or blending with better quality of coal alternative options.

Agreement by PTC

2537. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the agreements made by Power Trading Corporation (PTC) in the financial year 2000-2001 with generators for purchase of power and with consumers for sale of power;

(b) what are the estimates for the current financial year;

(c) whether any trading of power is done with Government of Nepal and Bhutan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Details of the agreements

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

made by Power Trading Corporation (PTC) in the financial year 2000-2001 with generators for purchase of power/with consumers for sale of power are given below:

(i) for supply of 1.44 million units of energy from Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) of Jindal Vijayanagram Steel Limited (JVSL) through Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL).

(ii) for supply of 42.32 million units energy to Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) from Punjab State Electricity Board.

(iii) for supply of up to 200 MW of power from West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd. (WBPDCL) to the deficit states.

(b) The total energy estimated to be traded by PTC during the current financial year, *i.e.* 2001-2002 is approximately 1500 million units.

(c) No, Sir. However, PTC has been identified as the Nodal Agency for Indo-Nepal trade of power, and discussions are being held by PTC with States Utilities/SEBs in this regard.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Shortage of Power in NER

2538. SHRI INDRAMONI BORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the shortage of power in North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, what steps are taken to improve the power shortage;

(c) the progress regarding commissioning of Power Project "Karbi-Longpi" and by when power generation is expected; and

(d) the estimate of the said project and how much has been spent so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) State-wise requirement